

JERRY McNERNEY  
11th DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES

TRANSPORTATION and  
INFRASTRUCTURE

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY INDEPENDENCE  
and GLOBAL WARMING

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE  
312 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-1947

STOCKTON DISTRICT OFFICE  
222 GRAND CANAL BOULEVARD #7  
STOCKTON, CA 95207  
(209) 476-8552

PLEASANTON DISTRICT OFFICE  
4776 STONERIDGE MALL ROAD, #175  
PLEASANTON, CA 94586  
(925) 737-0777

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0511**

March 14, 2008

Administrator Stephen Johnson  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Johnson:


I am writing to you to express my significant disappointment with your decision to establish a weak ozone standard, ignoring expert health recommendations from your own scientific advisors. This decision is the latest example of your Agency's practice of executing politically motivated decisions that harm the public good.

I represent a portion of California's San Joaquin Valley, an area that unfortunately has some of the nation's worst air quality. The health effects caused by poor environmental conditions are severe, and I have seen the consequences firsthand. As a result of this pollution, Valley residents, particularly children, suffer from high rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses. The health effects of poor air quality on our nation's youth are so severe that California adopted a stricter ozone standard than the one you selected.

I am deeply troubled by widespread and credible reports that the EPA ignored the expert recommendations of its own Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee because of political pressure from the White House. Clean air decisions must be made in the interest of public health and be based on scientific evidence, not political expediency. In your remaining months as EPA Administrator, I hope that you will use every tool at your disposal to help communities improve the quality of their air.

Thank you for your attention to this letter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress